BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) The variation between audio level of advertisements and other programmes telecast by Doordarshan occures, at times, as the advertisements supplied by different agencies are recorded at high level and pitch for effects. Efforts are made by Doordarshan to pre-check the audio levels of advertisements supplied by different agencies and control it during the course of processing of the signal, while being telecast, to the extent possible in order to minimise the variation in audio level.

New Editors for Hindi News on Doordarshan

3278. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of casual News Editors being booked daily for the Hindi news of Doordarshan and how much money is being paid to them daily;

(b) whether there was any demand for enhancement of their daily wages; if so, the details thereof and also Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether it is a fact that these editors are being made to work for more days than stipulated and are not paid for the extra work; if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) The number of casual News editors booked daily by Doordarshan for the Hindi news bulletins is not fixed and varies as per the day-to-day requirement. The casual News Editors arc paid @ Rs. 200/- and Rs. 250/- per assignment.

(b) Yes, Sir, However, the present rates of payment of assignment are considered adequate.

(c) No, Sir.

Coverage of Neighbouring Countries by Doordarshan

3279. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the neighbouring countries are also receiving Doordarshan programmes;

(b) if so, what are the details of the countries which receive the programmes and what is the extent of the coverage;

(c) whether Doordarshan propose to increase its coverage in other Asian countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DUPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) Doordarshan programmes disseminated through the INSAT Satellite are also available in Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives etc. as a result of technical spill over. These programmes can be received by installing an appropriate Dish Antenna System.

(c) and (d) The Government have also taken up the question of introducing an external service of Doordarshan on an experimental basis for viewers in the Asian countries.

टेलिटैक्स सेवा का विस्तार

3280. **श्री विश्वास राव रामराव पाटिल:** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या दूरदर्शन की टेलिटैक्स सेवा के विस्तार का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) टेलिटैक्स सेवा के जरिए इस समय किस प्रकार के कार्यक्रम प्रसारित किए जा रहे हैं और इस सेवा में कौन-कौन से कार्यक्रमों को शामिल किये जाने का विचार है; और

(घ) किन-किन जगहों में यह सेवा उपलब्ध कराई जाएगी?